

DEC. 1951

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 SECURITY INFORMATION
 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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REPORT

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INFORMATION FROM
 FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS CD NO.

COUNTRY Hungary

DATE OF
INFORMATION 1951

SUBJECT Economic - Statistics
 Political - Government organization

DATE DIST. 15 Dec 1951

HOW
 PUBLISHED Monthly periodical

WHERE
 PUBLISHED Budapest

NO. OF PAGES 2

DATE
 PUBLISHED Jan 1951

LANGUAGE Hungarian

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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SOURCE Statistikai Szemle, Vol III, No 1, 1951.1951 WORK PLAN OF HUNGARIAN CENTRAL STATISTICAL OFFICE

Decree No 651/33/1950, of the Economic Council of the Hungarian People's Republic, outlines the tasks of the Central Statistical Office for 1951. The decree repeats previous regulations which prohibit the conduct of unauthorized statistical surveys and lists the new fields which will be included in the activities of the Central Statistical Office.

The collection of statistical data must be decentralized and must serve the purpose of checking the execution of the Five-Year Plan. Accordingly, statistical methods must be adapted to the details of the Five-Year Plan.

During 1951, the collection of data will be extended to include the following objectives:

The 1950 national income statement and balance sheets of the national economy, national production, monetary circulation, national and county manpower, and manpower migration between the various branches of the national economy will be drawn up.

The most important technical index numbers will be observed in each branch of the national economy. Statistical methods will be devised to cover the utilization of important materials throughout the national economy.

Investment statistics, begun experimentally in 1950, will be extended to include the entire area of the national economy, with particular emphasis on the technical execution of projects.

The Central Statistical Office will prepare quarterly statistics on production costs, the progress of production cost reduction, and on producers' cooperatives. It will prepare a survey of self-employed artisans and private commerce, as of 1 January 1951.

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Beginning with 1951, price statistics will be based on total industrial production and wholesale turnover, replacing the sampling method now in use. In the field of sociology and culture, data will be collected on the most important diseases. Collection of statistics on the internal migration of the population will be supplemented from the police records on changes of residence.

In the collection of data, the Central Statistical Office must give more attention to the needs of the local councils. On the other hand, the local councils may collect statistical information on large areas only after having obtained the permission of the Central Statistical Office.

The Central Statistical Office will cooperate with the several industrial ministries in developing an adequate system of collecting data on industrial plants. Agricultural statistics will be based directly on the reports of the farmers, instead of on the estimates of town clerks. Statistics on the retail trade must be so organized as to show the quarterly turnover in the most important commodities on the basis of the reports of the retail stores.

The Central Statistical Office will set up a system of reports on operations which must be submitted by the enterprises to the ministries. In general, the statistical procedure will be decentralized. For this purpose, basic data will be submitted, through channels, to the ministries which summarize and forward these data to the Central Statistical Office. Care must be taken that the required statistical personnel should not be increased, and, if possible, should be reduced as a result of decentralization. Decentralization is particularly advisable in noneconomic fields, such as sociology, culture, administration of justice, etc.

The Central Statistical Office is directed to popularize statistical information by means of publications, meetings, lectures, etc., among industrial management personnel, thereby enabling them to make full use of plant statistics.

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